

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 RSR-01 /092 W

----- 076240

R 281614 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2236

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS LONDON 07483

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK

SUBJECT: BY- ELECTION: LABOR HOLDS MANCHESTER EXCHANGE

REF: LONDON 7430

1. LABOR HELD ONTO ITS SEAT IN YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMEN-
TARY BY- ELECTION AT MANCHESTER EXCHANGE, ALBEIT WITH
A SHARPLY REDUCED MAJORITY. THE LIBERALS, BADLY IN
NEED OF A VICTORY TO SUSTAIN THEIR CURRENT REVIVAL,
DID WELL BUT NOT WELL ENOUGH. THE CONSERVATIVES
SUFFERED THE HUMILIATION OF A FORFEITED DEPOSIT.

2. THE RESULTS, WITH THE 1970 FIGURES IN PARENTHESES,
WERE:

LABOR 5,348 (8,234) 55 (69)

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LIBERALS 3,525 (-) 37 (-)
CONSERVATIVES 683 (3,341) 7 (28)
COMMUNIST 109 (-) 1 (-)

3. LESS THAN 44 PERCENT OF THE ELECTORATE TURNED OUT
TO VOTE, AND THE CONSTITUENCY ITSELF IS DUE TO DISAPPEAR
THROUGH REAPPORTIONMENT BEFORE THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION

4. COMMENT: DESPITE THE POOR TURNOUT AND A DIMINISHED
MAJORITY, LABOR CAN RELAX A BIT NOW THAT IT HAS
REPULSED THE LIBERAL CHALLENGE IN MANCHESTER EXCHANGE.
THE THREE BY- ELECTIONS STILL PENDING ARE ALL FOR SEATS
HELD BY THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH MEANS THAT THE CONSERVA-
TIVES RATHER THAN LABOR WILL HAVE TO BEAR THE BRUNT OF
LIBERAL ATTACKS IN THESE CONTESTS.

ANNENBERG

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

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BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
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